

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]**Notice of Intended Action**

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)"b."

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code subsection 455A.5(6), the Natural Resource Commission hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 81, "Fishing Regulations," Iowa Administrative Code.

The proposed amendments limit anglers to a maximum 5/0 treble hook size when snagging paddlefish, reduce the length of the fishing season, and establish a maximum size limit on paddlefish.

Any interested person may make written suggestions or comments on the proposed amendments on or before September 1, 2009. Such written materials should be directed to Martin Konrad, Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, 502 E. 9th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034; fax (515)281-6794; or E-mail Martin.Konrad@dnr.iowa.gov. Persons who wish to convey their views orally should contact the Fisheries Bureau at (515)281-6976 or at the Bureau offices on the fourth floor of the Wallace State Office Building.

Also, there will be a public hearing on August 26, 2009, at 7 p.m. in the Clinton County Administration Building, Room D, 1900 N. 3rd Street, Clinton, Iowa. At the public hearing, persons may present their views either orally or in writing. At the hearing, persons will be asked to give their names and addresses for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of the amendments.

Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special needs, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Department of Natural Resources and advise of specific needs.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 456A.25.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend rule 571—81.1(481A) as follows:

571—81.1(481A) Seasons, territories, daily bag limits, possession limits, and length limits.

KIND OF FISH	INLAND WATERS OF THE STATE			BOUNDARY RIVERS	
	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH LIMITS	MISSISSIPPI RIVER MISSOURI RIVER BIG SIOUX RIVER
Rock Sturgeon	Closed	0	0		Same as inland waters
Shovelnose Sturgeon	Continuous	None	None	None	Same as inland waters except no harvest allowed in the Big Sioux River and aggregate daily bag limit 10, aggregate possession limit 20, in the Missouri River
Paddlefish*	Continuous	2	4	None	Same as inland waters <u>except for an open season and length limit in the Mississippi River</u> <u>See below*</u>

INLAND WATERS OF THE STATE					BOUNDARY RIVERS
KIND OF FISH	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH LIMITS	MISSISSIPPI RIVER MISSOURI RIVER BIG SIOUX RIVER
Yellow Perch	Continuous	25	50	None	Same as inland waters except no bag or possession limit in the Missouri River
Trout	Continuous	5	10	None*	Same as inland waters
Catfish*	Continuous	8 Lakes 15 Streams	30	None	Same as inland waters except no bag or possession limit in the Mississippi River
Black Bass (Largemouth Bass) (Smallmouth Bass) (Spotted Bass)	Continuous	3 In Aggregate	6	See below*	Continuous open season; aggregate daily bag limit 5, aggregate possession limit 10 See below*
Combined Walleye, Sauger and Saugeye	Continuous*	5*	10*	None*	Continuous open season; aggregate daily bag limit 6, aggregate possession limit 12; except aggregate daily bag limit 4, aggregate possession limit 8, in the Big Sioux and Missouri Rivers See below*
Northern Pike	Continuous*	3	6	None	Continuous open season; daily bag limit 5, possession limit 10; except daily bag limit 6, possession limit 12, in the Big Sioux River
Muskellunge or Hybrid Muskellunge	Continuous*	1	1	40"	Same as inland waters
Crappie	Continuous	25*	None	None	Same as inland waters except 50 in possession
Bluegill	Continuous	25*	None	None	Same as inland waters except in aggregate with pumpkinseed on the Mississippi River
All other fish species*	Continuous	None	None	None	See below*
Frogs (except Bullfrogs)	Continuous	48	96	None	Same as inland waters
Bullfrogs (Rana Catesbeiana)	Continuous	12	12	None	Same as inland waters

*Also see 571—81.2(481A), Exceptions.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 81.2(4) as follows:

81.2(4) Paddlefish snagging is permitted in all waters of the state, except as follows:

a. There shall be no open season in the Missouri River and Big Sioux River, nor in any tributary of these streams within 200 yards immediately upstream of its confluence with the Missouri ~~or~~ and Big Sioux Rivers.

b. Snagging for paddlefish on the Mississippi River is restricted to the area within 500 yards below the navigation dams and their spillways. No hooks larger than 5/0 treble or measuring more than 1¼ inches in length when two of the hook points are placed on a ruler are permitted when snagging. The open season on the Mississippi River is the period from ~~January~~ March 1 through April 15.

c. Snagging for paddlefish is not permitted at any time in those areas where snagging is prohibited as a method of take as listed in subrule 81.2(11).

d. On the Mississippi River, a 33-inch maximum length limit shall apply; any paddlefish measuring 33 inches or more when measured from the front of the eye to the fork of the tail must immediately be released alive.